175 this was the first political assassination in Finnish history. Bobrikov's death brought joy all over the country, and Schauman became a national hero. Russian pressure eased after this, and Russia's failures in the war against
● [646] Japan brought more temporary relief. The diet of Finland was reorganized into its present state: instead of the four estates of Swedish times it has now only one chamber of
[562] 200 representatives. Finland became the first country to grant women complete suffrage in 1906.

175 668 But the Russian oppression began anew after a few relatively peaceful years, and the resistance of the Finns took a more and more active form. The Russian revolutionists also found accomplices in the radical wing of the Finnish

643 the Diet or may dissolve it. He may take the initiative in matters of legislation, and he must approve all governmental proposals. He has the right to veto a proposed law, although another Diet may override this veto. The President also appoints the higher officials, including those of the Army and of the Church, and he has the power of amnesty in individual cases. During peace time he is Commander-in-chief of the army, although during wartime he entrusts the duties connected with this position to a general of his choice. Executive power is controlled by the legislative branch of the government, but in foreign affairs the President has considerable freedom of action, especially if he can rely on the support of several ministers.

646 The Diet consists of one chamber and 200 members. Any Finnish citizen has the right to

246 vote and to be elected to the Diet provided he is past 21 and has not lost his citizenship rights because of some criminal action. The prescribed length of the Diet per year is 120 days, but in praxis the session time is always longer. The members elect a Speaker and two Deputy Speakers. The Diet is divided into committees which review and prepare for presentation the proposed laws: the Constitutional Committee, Laws Committee, Foreign Relations Committee, Finance Committee and Bank Committee; others may be appointed as the situation demands. The so-called Grand Committee, composed of 45 members, acts as a kind of substitute first legislative chamber. The Diet deals with bills which are proposed by the executive branch of the government. Although members of the Diet also have the right to propose bills, and such

646 bills submitted to the Speaker are numerous, nevertheless only a very few of them ever receive the majority of votes required to pass.

645 Finland has a Prime Minister and a number of other ministers, the maximum number fixed by law. Each minister heads a ministry; in 1947 there were 18 of them, including the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Interior, Finance, Defense, Education, Agriculture, Transport and Public Works, Trade and Industry, Social Affairs, and Supply. In addition, an assistant minister is customarily added to the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Social Affairs. The ministers, who must be Finnish citizens, have as their duty to assist the President in drafting bills, budget estimates, and proposals for Government loans, all to be presented to the Diet for discussion. The ministers